

The German delegate declared that the persons referred to had left Germany because the new Germany no longer assured them a privileged situation, or because the internal political conditions were no longer in accordance with their wishes, or because they had an uneasy conscience. The measures contemplated should not be such as to give any encouragement to the elements engaged abroad in a campaign against the German Government. In particular he could not agree that the work outlined in the proposal could take place within the framework of the League.

The matter was referred to a Sub-Committee, the German delegate stating that his country did not desire to be represented on it.

The chief feature of the Sub-Committee's report was that it recommended that the League should appoint a High Commissioner, and that it should advance funds for the work. It was evident that, while the delegates were not in sympathy with the treatment of the Jews in Germany, they were also not prepared to assent to measures for their relief which might have far-reaching political and economic reactions upon their respective countries; pointing out particularly that their Governments could not very well take on further obligations as to supplying work in view of the difficult unemployment situation in their respective countries. Thus the Italian delegate thought that the paragraph inviting States which had received few or no German refugees to facilitate the employment of refugees from Germany and those relating to the information of non-Member States and the co-operation of private organizations did not seem very desirable. Dr. Riddell also said that these paragraphs presented difficulties for the Canadian delegation in view of the unemployment situation in his country. He could only agree to their inclusion if it were understood definitely that they involved no obligation on the part of the Canadian Government to provide employment for refugees.

The Rapporteur explained that the paragraphs in question were not intended to create obligations but were merely recommendations and submitted a new text taking account of the various observations made in the course of the discussion.

The German delegate, however, objected that the resolution would involve intervention by the League at some stage, and stated that when it came to a final decision the German delegation would vote against the resolution.

A committee including the German representative was then appointed to draw up a new formula capable of satisfying Germany. It was decided that the High Commissioner would not report to the League, but to an outside body nominated by the States best able to assist the refugees. Thereby the discussion of German policy in the Council would be avoided.

On this basis the resolution was adopted, the German delegate abstaining.

FOURTH COMMITTEE

(Budgetary and Financial Questions)

The work of the Fourth Committee was, as usual, long and arduous. In the debate, stress was particularly laid on the following points:—

Financial Position of the League

It was felt that, while the financial situation was serious and every possible step should be taken to ensure the regular payment of contributions, there was no real cause for alarm as to the financial future of the League; it now seemed that, as a result of the considerable savings which had been effected, there would be no deficit for the year 1933, and that, even if revenue fell short of expenditure, the working capital fund would afford sufficient safeguard for this year.